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ANTIQVA. LOND.

By the King.

A Proclamation for reliefe of the poore, and

remedying the high prices of Corne.

THE Kings moſt Excellent Maieſtie, hauing taken knowledge of the preſent ſcarcity and dearth, and of the high prices of Corne and graine throughout all parts of this Kingdome, hath beene pleaſed by his Proclamation lately publiſhed, to reſtraine the reſidence of the Lords Spirituall and Temporall, and of the Knights, and Gentlemen of quality, in, and neere the Cities of London and Weſtminſter, and other Cities and Townes, and to returne them vnto their owne houſes & habitations in their ſeuerall Countries, that all partes of the Kingdome might finde the fruites, and feele the comfort of their hoſpitality and good gouernment: Wherein, as his Maieſtie is well pleaſed with the dutifull obedience of great numbers, that according to his Royall command, haue left the Cities of London and Weſtminſter, and the parts adiacent; So his Highneſſe hath great cauſe to condemne the obſtinacy of all ſuch, as in a time of ſuch generall conformity, and againſt ſo many good examples, ſhall ſhew themſelues refractorie to that his Royall pleaſure, grounded vpon important reaſons of Iuſtice and State. And therefore his Maieſtie doeth eftſoones admoniſh them ſpeedily to ſubmit themſelues to that his Royall Proclamation, or elſe to expect the ſeuerity of his iuſtice for their wilfull contempt. And this his Maieſtie declares to be extended, aſwell vnto ſuch as haue repayred, or ſhall repayre from their ordinary dwellings in the Countrey, vnto other Cities and Townes, as vnto the Cities of London and Weſtminſter, and aſwell vnto Widdowes, as men of quality and eſtate, and to be continued, not only during the time of Chriſtmaſſe now inſtant, but in that, and in all other times and ſeaſons of this and other yeeres, vntill his Maieſtie declare his pleaſure otherwiſe, his Maieſtie intending to continue this courſe hereafter, for the generall good of his people: Yet allowing that Liberty which alwayes hath beene in Termes, and otherwiſe, to repayre to London about their neceſſary occaſions, but not to remooue their wiues and families from their ordinary habitations in the Countrey: An innouation and abuſe lately crept in, and growne frequent.

And although his Maieſtie is perſwaded that by this way of reuiuing the laudable and ancient houſekeeping of this Realme, the poore, and ſuch as are moſt pinched in times of ſcarcity and want, will be much releeued and comforted; yet that nothing may be omitted that may tend to their ſuccour

and helpe. His Highneſſe in His gracious and Princely care and prouidence, hath cauſed certaine politique & good orders, heeretofore made vpon like occaſion, to be reuiued & publiſhed, intituled, Orders appointed by His Maieſtie, &c. By which the Iuſtices of Peace in all partes of the Realme are directed to ſtay all Ingroſſers, Foreſtallers and regrators of Corne, and to direct all owners and Farmers, hauing Corne to ſpare, to furniſh the markets rateably and weekely, with ſuch quantities as reaſonably they may and ought to doe: and ſome one or more of them to be preſent in the Market, according to the Orders, and to ſee diuers other Articles obſerued and performed, tending to the preuention and remedy of this inconuenience. Neuertheleſſe, becauſe His Maieſtie doth well know, that the life of theſe his gracious, godly, and politique conſtitutions dependeth vpon the carefull and diligent execution of the ſame; His Highneſſe doth therefore by this His Proclamation ſtraitely charge and command, all Sheriffes, Iuſtices of Peace, Maiors, Bayliffes, and other His Officers and Subiects whatſoeuer, That they take knowledge of the ſayd Orders, and obſerue, and cauſe the ſame to bee obſerued, as ſhall appertaine vnto them; And that they vſe all poſſible endeauours, by execution of the aforeſaid Orders, and of the good and wholſome Lawes in that behalfe, and by all other good meanes, that the Markets may be ſupplied with plenty of corne, and at reaſonable prizes, and the poore ſet on worke and relieued, His Maieſtie declaring, that (amongſt other ſeruices which hee expecteth from thoſe perſons of quality, who either before were, or vpon this and his late Proclamation ſhall reſide in the Country) this before remembred is one of eſpeciall importance: And withall, his Maieſtie hauing thus carefully prouided for releefe of his poore ſort of Subiectes, doeth declare and ſtrictly charge and command, that if any vnder pretence of pouerty and want, ſhall leaue their ordinary labour, or aſſemble together in vnfit maner, or otherwiſe inſolently behaue themſelues, that they be corrected and puniſhed according to their demerits.

Giuen at Our Court at Whitehall, the two and twentieth day of December, in the twentieth yeere of Our Reigne of England, France, and Ireland, and of Scotland the ſixe and fiftieth.

God ſaue the King.

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